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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the present application. Claims 2, 3, 9, 10, 15, 16, and 20-23 have been canceled. Claims 1, 4, 6-8, 11, 13, 14, 17, and 19 are amended. Support for the amendments can be found on page 11, lines 13-18 and in the claims as originally presented. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

I. Interview Summary

Applicants thank the Examiner for the interview granted on June 29, 2006. During the interview, the undersigned attorney and the examiner discussed the claim amendments presented in this response to office action vis-à-vis *Ranganathan*, cited below. No agreement was reached.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 102, Anticipation

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 17, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by *Gaughan et al.*, On-Screen Remote Control of a Television Receiver, U.S. Patent 5,589,893 (Dec. 31, 1996) (hereinafter "*Gaughan*"). Additionally, the Examiner rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by *Ranganathan et al.*, Software-Directed, Energy-Aware Control of Display, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0135288 (July 17, 2003) (hereinafter "*Ranganathan*"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

II.A. Rejection over *Gaughan*

In regards to the rejection of claim 1 over *Gaughan*, the Examiner states:

> Regarding claim 1, Gaughan et al. discloses that the claimed feature of a computer implemented method for selectively increasing a display intensity of at least one region of a screen, the method comprising: responsive to identifying [i.e. "accessed by cursor" 561 a first region [i.e. 'one of control function are', 'one of screen areas'; 58,60,62,64] on the screen, altering [i.e. "illuminated", "highlighted"] the display intensity of the screen within the first region, wherein, after the display intensity of the first region is altered, the display intensity of the screen within the first region is greater than the display intensity of other regions portions of the screen; determining whether the first region has been redefined ['by cursor movement'] to form a redefined region; and responsive to the first region being redefined, [i.e. 'another screen areas'] , altering [i.e. "illuminated", "highlighted"] the display intensity of the screen within the redefined region, wherein the display intensity of the screen within the redefined region is greater than the display intensity of other regions of the screen. (See Fig 4, Fig 9, Abstract line 11-1 7, col 4 line 40-col 6 line 6).

Office Action dated April 5, 2006, pages 3-4.

A prior art reference anticipates the claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 only if every element of a claimed invention is identically shown in that single reference, arranged as they are in the claims. *In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 832, 15 U.S.P.Q.2d 1566, 1567 (Fed. Cir. 1990). All limitations of the claimed invention must be considered when determining patentability. *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 1582, 32 U.S.P.Q.2d 1031, 1034 (Fed. Cir. 1994). Anticipation focuses on whether a claim reads on the product or process a prior art reference discloses, not on what the reference broadly teaches. *Kalman v. Kimberly-Clark Corp.*, 713 F.2d 760, 218 U.S.P.Q. 781 (Fed. Cir. 1983). In this case, every feature of the presently claimed invention is not identically shown in the cited reference, arranged as they are in the claims.

Claim 1 as amended is as follows:

> 1. A computer implemented method for selectively increasing a display intensity of at least one region of a screen, the method comprising:
>
> responsive to identifying a first region on the screen, altering the display intensity of the screen within the first region, wherein, after the display intensity of the first region is altered, the display intensity of the screen within the first region is greater than the display intensity of other regions of the screen, wherein the first region is a pointer region around a pointer, and wherein the pointer region is defined from a user input received through a graphical user interface;
>
> determining whether the first region has been redefined to form a redefined region; and
>
> responsive to the first region being redefined, altering the display intensity of the screen within the redefined region, wherein the display intensity of the screen within the redefined region is greater than the display intensity of other regions of the screen.

Gaughan does not teach the newly added feature of, "wherein the first region is a pointer region around a pointer, and *wherein the pointer region is defined from a user input received through a graphical user interface.*" For example, in *Gaughan*'s Figure 4, cited by the Examiner and shown below, the region around cursor 56 is not defined by the user via a graphical user interface. Nothing in *Gaughan* teaches or suggest otherwise.

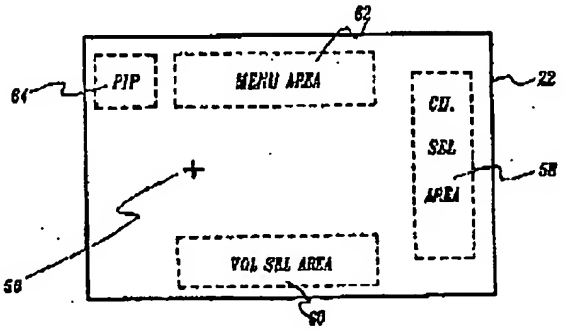

FIG. 4

Figure 4 of *Gaughan* shows a television viewing screen with television operation function selection areas. Menu area 62 is directed towards functions of the television and is unrelated to controlling the region around cursor 56. For example, *Gaughan* teaches that:

> As cursor 56 approaches a television control function portion or screen area, such as any of the screen areas 58, 60, 62 and 64, that area is illuminated and the options available for selection are displayed to the viewer.

Gaughan, col. 4, ll. 48-52.

Thus, figure 4 of *Gaughan* does not provide any disclosure related to a user defining a region around the pointer via a graphical user interface. Accordingly, *Guaghan* does not teach the newly added claim feature of, "wherein the first region is a pointer region around a pointer, and wherein the pointer region is defined from a user input received through a graphical user interface."

In another example, *Gaughan* states that:

> In operation, the television receiver provides on-screen displays for various television receiver control functions, such as those illustrated in FIG. 4. The cursor display is developed in the television receiver and its position is monitored as described previously. In response to the (initial) activation signal from switch 44 of the remote transmitter of FIG. 2, cursor 56, in the preferred embodiment, is illuminated. In response to movements of the trackball 42 by the user, cursor 56 is moved over the viewing screen. *As cursor 56 approaches a television control function portion or screen area, such as any of the screen areas 58, 60, 62 and 64, that area is illuminated and the options available for selection are displayed to the viewer.* This procedure is software driven. The areas are highlighted in different colors for visual effect and to enable the viewer to associate different colors with different receiver functions. For example, blue may be used for volume control, yellow for the channel selection area, etc. As the viewer moves the cursor to the particular desired function in the area (a line item in a menu area or a channel number in the channel selection area, for example) depression of the trackball activates the switch 44 again and the activate signal will be received by the IR receiver 34 of the television receiver and result in execution of the selected control function. During trackball movement, the cursor position is correspondingly updated. As those skilled in the art will appreciate, with the arrangement, if it is so desired, a single trackball control on the remote transmitter may suffice for completely controlling all functions of the television receiver. For example, at initial start up, the trackball may be depressed to turn the television receiver on and to illuminate the cursor. Thereafter control of any function may be obtained in the manner just described by movement of the trackball to position the cursor in the selected area and by further activation of the switch 44. When the position of cursor 56 is outside of the selected area, the illuminated area is turned off. This particular illumination arrangement will be recognized to be a matter of design choice and the invention is not to be so limited.
>
> The flow charts of FIGS. 8 and 9 for the transmitter and receiver, respectively, illustrate operation of the system of the invention. In the transmitter, a key press is interrogated as to whether it is a trackball key (T'Ball) or a conventional

> function key. If the latter, the corresponding IR code is transmitted. If it was the T'Ball key, the T'Ball IR key code is sent to activate the cursor in the television receiver. A timer is started and the keyboard and T'Ball are monitored for 20 seconds. Activity during this period is interrogated with T'Ball movement being sent as IR displacement data and function key presses or simultaneous function key presses and T'Ball activity being sent as the selected key code. This favoring of the keyboard over the trackball prevents "casual" trackball movements from hindering normal remote control operation.
>
> In FIG. 9, the receiver initially determines whether the cursor was active when the trackball key code is received and the X,Y data retrieved from the position registers. If so, the key code is decoded and the appropriate function actuated. If not, the cursor is activated and further T'Ball signals are awaited (i.e. X,Y displacement signals). When such are received, the X,Y displacement is determined, a user acceleration value (or sensitivity factor) is applied and the new values are placed in the position registers. The ranges are checked since large movement of the trackball (to a border area or the like) may indicate that a "scroll" type function should be executed. *When the position registers indicate the cursor is in a "window" area of the screen, the area is illuminated.* The image registers are incremented (and the cursor movement is visible). It will be appreciated that to produce a "smooth" cursor movement effect it may be that the receiver is already receiving the first part of the subsequent IR transmission before the cursor has reached the position determined by the previous IR transmission. When the image registers equal the position registers, execution of the designated function is carried out.

Gaughan, col. 4, l. 40 through col. 6, l. 6 (emphasis supplied).

This portion of *Gaughan* teaches that an area of a screen can be illuminated by moving a cursor over the area of the screen. However, nothing in this portion or other portions of *Gaughan* teaches the claimed feature of "wherein the first region is a pointer region around a pointer, and *wherein the pointer region is defined from a user input received through a graphical user interface.*" Thus, *Gaughan* does not teach all of the features of claim 1. Accordingly, *Gaughan* does not anticipate claim 1 as amended.

Because claims 4 and 5 depend from claim 1, the same distinctions between *Gaughan* and the claimed invention in claims 4 and 5 apply to these claims. Additionally, claims 4 and 5 claim other additional combinations of features not suggested by the reference. For example, *Gaughan* does not teach that the first region may either be in the shape of a circle, square, or rectangle. Consequently, it is respectfully urged that the rejection of claims 1, 4, and 5 have been overcome.

In regards to the remaining claims, the Examiner rejects claims 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 17, and 18 for being similar in scope to claims 1, 4, and 5. Claims 7, 8, and 14 have been amended with identical language as that presented in claim 1 as amended. The same distinctions between *Gaughan* and claim 1 apply to claims 7, 8, and 14. Claims 11, 12, and 17, 18 were rejected for being similar in scope to claims 4 and 5 respectively. Similarly, the same distinctions between *Gaughan* and the claimed invention in claims 4 and 5 apply to these claims.

Applicants have successfully addressed all of the claims with respect to rejection over *Gaughan*. Therefore, the rejection of claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 17, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) has been overcome.

II.B. Rejection over *Ranganathan*

In addition, the Examiner's asserts that claims 1-24 are anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by *Ranganathan*. This rejection is respectfully traversed. The Examiner states that:

> Regarding independent claim 7, Ranganathan discloses a bus system, a CPU 402, memory 41 0, and a User Interface 408 (Figure 4), which reads on the claimed bus system, the claimed communications unit connected to the bus system, the claimed memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions, and the claimed processing unit connected to the bus system, in which the processing unit executes the set of instructions. Ranganathan also discloses the energy-aware software control of individual portions of the display that can be used in several different ways, where higher importance to the user may be highlighted (e.g., brightly lit and as a result consuming higher power) while the areas of the screen that the user is not concerned about can be turned off, dimly illuminated or modified in some way to consume lower power (paragraph 12), which reads on the claimed responsive to identifying a first region on the screen, alter the display intensity of the screen within the first region, wherein, after the display intensity of the first region is altered, the display intensity of the screen within the first region is greater than the display intensity of other regions of the screen. Ranganathan further discloses the user being able to select (or point to) the area of focus to be highlighted (by the energy-aware software control) where the use can do so by using a "stick-lamp" icon to highlight ('light-up') specific portions of the screen and a turning on a headlight on the mouse (or an equivalent pointing device), where the light could be pointed at or over the screen area (or text) of focus to be highlighted, the light could be moved down as the user reads along (paragraph 62), which reads on the claimed determine whether the first region has been redefined to form a redefined region and the claimed alter the display intensity of the screen within the redefined region, in response to the first region being redefined, wherein the display intensity of the screen within the redefined region is greater than the display intensity of other regions of the screen.

Office Action dated April 5, 2006, pages 4-5.

Claim 7 as currently amended is as follows:

> 7. A data processing system for selectively increasing a display intensity of at least one region of a screen, the data processing system comprising:
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> a bus system;
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> a communications unit connected to the bus system;
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> a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and
>
> a processing unit connected to the bus system, in which the processing unit executes the set of instructions to:

> responsive to identifying a first region on the screen, alter the display intensity of the screen within the first region, wherein, after the display intensity of the first region is altered, the display intensity of the screen within the first region is greater than the display intensity of other regions of the screen, wherein the first region is a pointer region around a pointer, and wherein the pointer region is defined by the user through a graphical user interface;
>
> determine whether the first region has been redefined to form a redefined region; and
>
> alter the display intensity of the screen within the redefined region, in response to the first region being redefined, wherein the display intensity of the screen within the redefined region is greater than the display intensity of other regions of the screen.

Ranganathan does not anticipate claim 7 as amended because *Ranganathan* does not teach the claimed feature that "wherein the first region is a pointer region around a pointer, and wherein the pointer region is defined from a user input received through a graphical user interface," as recited in claim 7. Therefore, *Ranganathan* does not anticipate claim 7.

Nevertheless, the Examiner did assert that the following portion of *Ranganathan* reads on the claimed feature of, "responsive to identifying a first region on the screen, alter the display intensity of the screen within the first region, wherein, after the display intensity of the first region is altered, the display intensity of the screen within the first region is greater than the display intensity of other regions of the screen:"

> [0012] The energy-aware software control of individual portions of the display can be used in several different ways. For example, screen area that is of higher importance to the user may be highlighted (e.g., brightly lit and as a result consuming higher power) while the areas of the screen that the user is not concerned about can be turned off, dimly illuminated or modified in some way to consume lower power.

Ranganathan page 1, paragraph 12.

Neither this portion of *Ranganathan* nor any other portion of *Ranganathan* teaches the newly added feature of, "wherein the first region is a pointer region around a pointer, and wherein the pointer region is defined from a user input received through a graphical user interface," as recited in claim 7. As the Examiner indicated, *Ranganathan* discloses using a "stick-lamp" icon to highlight specific portions of the screen, where the light could be pointed at or over the screen area (or text) of focus to be highlighted. However, *Ranganathan* does not teach the claimed feature of "wherein the first region is a pointer region around a pointer, and *wherein the pointer region is defined from a user input received through a graphical user interface.*" This portion of *Ranganathan* merely states that the user can select an area of the screen to highlight using a cursor. This portion does not disclose allowing the user to define the size of the area around the cursor to be highlighted (i.e. how big the highlighted area should be) through the use of a graphical user interface. Nothing in *Ranganathan* teaches or suggests otherwise. Thus,

Ranganathan does not teach all of the features of claim 7. Accordingly, *Ranganathan* does not anticipate claim 7.

Claims 1, 8, and 14 as amended contain features similar to those presented in claim 7 as amended. Therefore, the same distinctions between *Ranganathan* and claim 7 apply to claims 1, 8, and 14. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 1, 7, 8, and 14 has been overcome.

Moreover, claims 4, 5, 11-13, 17, 18, and 24 depend from one of claims 1, 8, and 14. Therefore, the same distinctions between *Ranganathan* and claims 1, 8, and 14 apply to these claims at least by virtue of their dependency on claims 1, 8, and 14. Additionally, these claims claim other additional combinations of features not suggested by the reference. For example, *Ranganathan* does not disclose that the first region may either be in the shape of a circle, square, or rectangle, as recited in claim 5. The Examiner asserts this feature is disclosed in Figures 1B and 2B, however, Figure 1B does not relate a first region, wherein the first region is a pointer region around a pointer. Furthermore, claim 13 allows the user to define the first region by a number of lines above and below an I-bar in a document. *Ranganathan's* use of a headlight on the mouse pointed at a portion of text does not teach or suggest this feature because the user is not allowed to define the highlighted area by a number of lines above and below an I-bar in a document. Therefore, *Ranganathan* does not teach or suggest these additional features. Consequently, the rejections of claims 4, 5, 11-13, 17, 18, and 24 have been overcome.

Because the Examiner rejected claims 6 and 19 for being similar in scope to claim 13, the same distinctions between *Ranganathan* and claim 13 apply to claims 6 and 19. Therefore, it is respectfully urged that the rejection of claims 6 and 19 have been overcome. Thus, the rejection of claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over *Ranganathan* has been overcome.

III. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the cited references and is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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